

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 NEA-10

AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00

PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 FEA-01

AGRE-00 OIC-02 /146 W

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R 060445Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1099

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

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FROM USDEL

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UN, CH, UR, US

SUBJECT: UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE: US-PRC CONVERSATION

1. AT RECEPTION GIVEN FOR DELEGATES TO UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE HERE OVER WEEKEND, CHINESE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM (UNEP) CHU KE-PING ENGAGED US DEL MEMBER AMBASSADOR RAWLS IN CONVERSATION ABOUT US-PRC RELATIONS AND PRC'S CONCERN ABOUT BORDER PROBLEM WITH USSR.

2. CHU COMPLAINED AT LENGTH ABOUT CHINA'S "AGGRESSIVE NEIGHBOR" WHICH HAD DEPLOYED ONE MILLION TROOPS ALONG THEIR COMMON BORDER. ("WE ARE UNDER THEIR MUSKETS.")

3. CHU STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF US-PRC TECHNICAL AND
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SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. RECALLING PRC'S PLENARY STATEMENT LAST WEEK, US DEL MEMBER REMARKED THAT PRC DELEGATE HAD CHASTISED "TWO SUPER POWERS," ALTHOUGH HE HAD GIVEN MORE ATTENTION TO ONE (USSR). IN ANY EVENT, USG HOPED THIS CONFERENCE WOULD BE FREE OF DISTRACTING POLEMICS SO THAT DELEGATION MIGHT CONCENTRATE ON IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE WORK. US DELEGATE, NOTING PRC HAD NOT ATTENDED UN WATER

CONFERENCE IN MAR DEL PLATA, ARGENTINA, IN MARCH, SAID DELEGATIONS THERE HAD COMBINED EFFORTS TO CONTAIN POLITICAL DISPUTES. CHU AFFIRMED PRC HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN WATER CONFERENCE, BUT HE DID NOT ADMIT CHINESE WERE INDEED IN MAR DEL PLATA, AS US DEL THERE WAS AWARE.

4. WHETHER HE ACUALLIT DID IT--OR HIS INTERPRETER MISSED A BEAT--CHU'S COMMENT ON US-CHINESE RELATIONS, AS IT CAME OUT IN ENGLISH, WAS THAT THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS BETWEEN US. HE HASTILY CORRECTED THIS, MENTIONING TAIWAN, AND THEN ASKED ABOUT SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT IN PEKING. US DEL MEMBER NOTED THAT SECRETARY HAD WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH NEW CHINESE LEADERS.

5. COMMENT: CHU KE-PING IS RETURNING TO PEKING FOR REASSIGNMENT FOLLOWING THIS CONFERENCE. HE IS FRIENDLY AND LAUGHS READILY--AND HE SEEMED MORE AT EASE HERE NOW THAN IN MAY WHEN HE AND RAWLS MET AT UNEP FIFTH GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION. PRC HAS TEN-MAN DELEGATION AT DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE, HEADED BY ITS AMBASSADOR TO KENYA. CHU IS DEPUTY HEAD. FOUR OTHER DELEGATES ARE ATTACHED TO PRC MISSION IN NAIROBI, AND FOUR DELEGATES CAME FROM CHINA. LATTER ARE, CHU CHEN-TA, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTE OF GLACIOLOGY, CRYOPEDOLOGY AND DESERT RESEARCH, AND TWO ASSISTANT RESEARCH FELLOWS FROM THIS INSTITUTE, AS WELL AS YANG HAN-HSI, A RESEARCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FELLOW AT ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF CHINA.
LEMELLE

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